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US PROPAGANDA ACTIVITIES SUBJECT OF SPECIAL HUNGARIAN REPORT

[Comment: The following excerpts are from an article by Peter Hun in the February 1964 issue of Nemzetkozi Szemle, Budapest, pages 31-40. This article was written especially for Nemzetkozi Szemle, which usually publishes only material from other Communist journals. It is the only article in this issue which is not a reprint.]

Propaganda is only one weapon in the "psychological war" of the imperialist powers. They also use every other tool with which they hope to achieve a favorable "psychological effect" in the interest of realizing their goals. The propaganda campaigns in the US are accompanied by threatening military demonstrations and "local" military operations; by the diversionary actions of the Central Intelligence Agency; and finally by the political, diplomatic, and economic actions of the government.

In 1953, in order to make "psychological warfare" more effective, an Operative Coordination Bureau (OCB) was set up, subordinate to the US National Security Council. This office plans and coordinates, under the direction of the President, all "psychological warfare" activities of the Department of State, the military headquarters, and the Central Intelligence Agency.

Beginning in the 1950s, the leaders of the US began to give ever greater significance to propaganda directed against the socialist countries. The magnitude of their efforts in this area is well indicated if we remember that Radio Free Europe, which was organized in 1950-1951 as a "private institution" on the initiative of the Central Intelligence Agency and the Department of State at a cost of 50 million marks and which seemed so large an undertaking at that time, is today almost lost in the mass of similar but openly state institutions.

The state institutions which undertake the lion's share in this "psychological war" include the Central Intelligence Agency, which, according to the most recent estimates, employs 60,000 persons, has more than 300,000 espionage agents around the world, and a yearly budget of 2.5 billion dollars, of which a large share is devoted to psychological warfare. In addition to the military, espionage, and foreign affairs apparatus, a significant role is played in these "psychological warfare operations" by the propaganda organ of the OCB, the USIA. This agency has 11,500 employees and operates offices

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